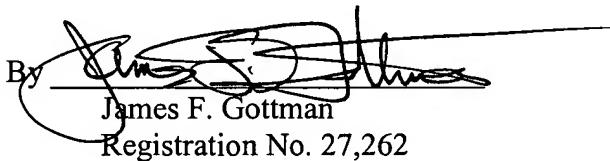


REMARKS

This amendment is submitted under 37 CFR § 41.33(b). Applicants present this amendment in view of the following circumstances. A review of the application will reveal that the Final Rejection was silent as to claims 7, 8, 9, 10, 21 and 22. Applicants assumed that these claims were rejected over the combination of Gerard in view of Lopes. In the Appeal Brief, applicants treated these claims as if they had been so rejected. In the Examiner's Answer, however, the Examiner has indicated claims 3 through 10, claims 16 through 19, and claims 21 through 24 are presently in condition for allowance if the claims are rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, claims 3 through 10, claims 16 through 19, and claims 21 through 24 have been rewritten as indicated in the Appeal Brief, and all other claims cancelled from the application. It is submitted, therefore, that the present amendment places the instant application in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,
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